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GERALD PATRICK HEMMING

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

CIA HAS NO OBJECTION TO
DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT.

FEB 19 1964

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Miami (2-365) (C) KP 1-15-98

SUBJECT: CHANGED
RONALD VON KLAUSSEN, aka.
Ronald Von Klarssen
NEUTRALITY MATTERS

Classified by SP8 MAC/KSR
Declassify on: OADR (JFK)

The title of this case is changed to include
subject's alias of RONALD VON KLARSSSEN as set forth in
FBI Identification record #886 890 C.

Re New York airtel 1/21/63 and New York letter
2/3/64 and Bureau letter 1/31/64.

DECLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/KSR
ON 2-13-98 (JFK)

Enclosed are 12 copies of LHM dated and cap-
tioned as above.

Copies are being disseminated locally to [CIA] (u)
ONI, G-2, INS, OSI, Border Patrol, Customs, Coast Guard
and State Department, Coordinator of Cuban Affairs.

On February 7, 1964 Mr. JOSEPH VIDAL, Covert,
CIA, Miami, advised that agency had no operational inter-
est in the subject or the Antonio Maceo Battalion and
had sponsored no military training.

MM T-1 is MM 639-S.

MM T-2 is GENNARO CIANELLI, an untested source
of the New York Office.

- 2 - Bureau (Encls 12) (RM)
- 2 - New York (2-810) (RM)
- 2 - Miami (1-28365)

(1-105-6842)

RJD:JMS

(6)

Copy to: CIA/State/OSI
ONI/OSI/ACSI

by routing slip for info.

Date: 3/10/64 by: VHM

REC-56

FEB 24 1964

MCT-8

Customs

Secret Ser.

John

Crimmins

Coordinator

Cuban Affairs

Scale

MM 2-365

~~SECRET~~
Inasmuch as subject is reportedly unreliable, mentally unstable, psychotic and incompetent, the Miami Office is making no request for authority to interview him. His actions can easily be followed and reported on by MM 639-S.

Inasmuch as information furnished by MM T-2 is basically a U.S. Customs matter, this information is being disseminated locally to Customs and this case is being closed.

Further information concerning the subject will be reported in case entitled ANTONIO MADEO BATALION:
IS - CUBA: RA - CUBA.

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

320-10028



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

FEB 19 1964

~~SECRET~~

Miami, Florida

RONALD VON KLAUSSEN, also
known as Ronald Von Klarssen
NEUTRALITY MATTERS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-14-95 BY SP8 MAC/ILSR
(JFK)

On July 8, 1963, RONALD VON KLAUSSEN, 1612 Michigan Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida, telephone number JE 8-4937, appeared at the Miami Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and stated he is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #1608, located at 1608 S.W. 27th Avenue, Miami, Florida. He stated that this VFW Post had undertaken the task of training a group of Cuban exiles known as the Antonio Maceo Battalion. VON KLAUSSEN said that according to one of the officers of the Post, the training is being sponsored by Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). (u)

VON KLAUSSEN said he had also been advised that the names and photographs of all Cubans being trained were being forwarded to the FBI for clearance.

VON KLAUSSEN continued that he is presently providing some of the instruction for the Cubans. He said he is concerned that his name and photograph would be forwarded to the FBI, because about ten years ago he was convicted of attempted assault in New York City.

MM T-1, who has been involved in Cuban revolutionary activities for the past two years, advised on August 6, 1963 that RONALD VON KLAUSSEN, 1612 Michigan Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida, had recently contacted GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, Miami, Florida. MM T-1 explained

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED BY SP4 JEL/SP8
ON 1/30/82

RONALD VON KLAUSSEN

HEMMING is an adventurer, mercenary and soldier of fortune, who has been involved in Cuban revolutionary activities for the past 4 years. VON KLAUSSEN told HEMMING he was then attempting to purchase arms for Cuban revolutionists in Miami and that he had funds available to make these purchases.

On August 8, 1963, MM T-1 advised that HEMMING and his group of mercenaries and adventurers had concluded VON KLAUSSEN is completely unreliable, mentally unstable and psychotic. VON KLAUSSEN claimed that he could obtain thousands of Sten guns from Canada, was going to buy some B-29 war surplus airplanes, and that he was going to bring this great quantity of arms and other materials to Miami.

MM T-1 stated that HEMMING and his group have been trying to deal in arms for a long time and know the difficulty there is in trying to locate even a small quantity of small arms. VON KLAUSSEN has recently become Military Instructor with the Antonio Maceo Battalion and hangs around the VFW Post located at 1608 S.W. 27th Avenue, Miami.

On September 24, 1963, MM T-1 advised that VON KLAUSSEN had recently been seen with another American and again stated he was then interested in purchasing arms. The other American was identified only as ALX CARTER. FLA

On October 13, 1963, RONALD VON KLAUSSEN, 1612 Michigan Avenue, Miami Beach, was interviewed in connection with another matter. VON KLAUSSEN volunteered he was a former U.S. Army Airborne Ranger and served with

RONALD VON KLAUSSEN

unidentified representatives of the MRR told VON KLAUSSEN that they were interested in purchasing automatic weapons, had funds available but were unable to locate any such weapons. VON KLAUSSEN immediately recontacted HEMMING, advised him of the situation and the opportunity to earn a profit by obtaining automatic weapons, and selling them to the MRR. HEMMING immediately contacted different friends and sources of arms, but was unable to locate any automatic weapons.

On November 21, 1963, MM T-1 advised that VON KLAUSSEN recently contacted ~~SANTIAGO~~ ALVAREZ, 541 N.W. FLA. 45th Avenue, Miami. ALVAREZ is the head of Comandos L, an anti-CASTRO organization that has conducted raids against Cuba in the past. VON KLAUSSEN told ALVAREZ that he had a source who produced a compound called Thermite, which compound burns at a very intense heat and could be used for sabotage. ALVAREZ stated he was interested in purchasing this material but at the present time could not afford it and did not have adequate funds to make any purchases of this type.

MM T-1 explained that Thermite is made by ~~LARRY~~ DE JOSEPH, who operates a general store at Sweetwater, Florida, and who is a friend and associate of GERALD PATRICK HEMMING.

On January 9, 1964, MM T-1 advised that there has been a split in the Antonio Maceo Battalion and VON KLAUSSEN continues as a training instructor for one of the factions.

On January 20, 1964, MM T-2, an American, advised he had been in Miami, Florida, for about seven